

Government involvement in people's lives. More contentious labor relations is not conducive to productivity. Sometimes Government leaders need to have some faith in people to work out solutions for themselves. We cannot be expected to, nor should we, mandate every aspect of life.

When it came down to making a decision, it was suddenly clear. This bill was bound to be a mess down the road. The National Labor Relations Board does not need any more work, and this bill was going to give it to them. So I cast my vote against H.R. 1, and I hope that both employers and employees will see that I did it because I thought it was not in their best interests.

I am hopeful that as this bill moves through the legislative process, it will be changed to strike a more sensible balance between the needs of employees and employers—without creating an unnecessary regulatory burden.

ADA CATANIA'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the momentous occasion of the 90th birthday of Ada Catania, of Fair Lawn, NJ.

Ada was born on April 28, 1907, in Zurich, Switzerland to Cesare and Bartolo Guidi. The second of four children, Ada's family included her brother, Domenic, and two sisters, Louise and Elvita. In October 1913, her family emigrated from Switzerland to the United States, coming first to Paterson, NJ, before finally settling in Fair Lawn in 1918. Even today, Ada lives in the house her father built in 1918.

On June 28, 1925, Ada married Frank Catania in Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church, Paterson. She worked in the Silk City textile industry of Paterson and was a proud union member of the ILGWU. Hardworking, Ada, along with Frank, still found the necessary time to happily raise a family of four children, Philomena, Jean, Eugene, and Frank. Today, she can proudly boast of an extended family including 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Ada's family and friends, the borough of Fair Lawn, and the city of Paterson, in recognizing the momentous occasion of Ada Catania's 90th birthday.

NEVADA'S WINNING 1997 VFW ESSAY

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker I would like to submit as an extension of my remarks, for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the following. This represents Nevada's winning audio-essay in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' 1997 Voice of Democracy Program Scholarship competition. As you can see below, this year's theme, "Democracy—Above and Be-

yond" is very well portrayed in Karianne Bodenstein's entry. Karianne is deserving of this honor and recognition for her efforts. It is with pride that on behalf of my constituents, we wish her continued success in her pursuit of a career in physical therapy and teaching.

"DEMOCRACY—ABOVE AND BEYOND"

The year is 1967. If they could just be someplace else, anyplace else. If they could just rest. If only the rain would stop and they could go home. They lie in the wet ground and they fight. No longer are they in the spring time of their lives with their baseball caps, paper routes, spending their summers playing tag and swimming in the pond. They are American soldiers. They move forward, inch by bloody inch and despite all their longing for safety, comfort and relief they advance and fight some more.

Why would our soldiers sacrifice their lives to die on foreign ground, away from family and friends? Could it be their devotion to a democracy that is truly above and beyond all other forms of government. A form of government that instills in its citizens a commitment so strong that no sacrifice is too great.

Every year American mothers and fathers struggle to care for their children. Everyday pressures press in and it seems that there is never enough time, never enough money, never enough resources to get ahead. Hard work and sacrifice are their companion.

This year America's farmers have endured catastrophic floods, drought and economic uncertainty to fill the country's breadbasket. Head bare, face burned, hands throbbing with fatigue they fought to defeat the rising waters, to nourish the earth and to keep the faith.

The nurse nurses the contagious, the handicapped, the incurable, while the teacher teaches tolerance, forbearance and imparts knowledge. The truck driver drives his rig through the cities and towns of America. These committed Americans are caring for, educating and providing for America. These Americans know that the democracy they safeguard is above and beyond all other forms of government.

I'm one of America's youth and sometimes our country's problems seem almost insurmountable. I know that I cannot harvest from the past at a greater pace than I help replenish for the future. I know that I must give and not just take and so I embrace the commitment of the soldier, the parent, the farmer, the teacher, all those who have invested in my future and make their diligence, determination and commitment my standard.

The year is 1996. There is a couple in the winter of their lives following the path to the silent, black granite wall. They stop at panel twenty-two and he lifts his hand. He runs his fingers over the name etched in the cold stone. Their son's name. She kneels and places a worn-out baseball cap on the ground. All around them are old soldiers dressed in dull fatigues, business suits, on crutches, canes and in wheel chairs. These are Americans who have sacrificed to protect our democratic form of government.

As I look to the future, I have no doubt that our democratic form of government will survive and prosper and go on. You show me another country standing so tall, being so proud and having such imagination. Show me another country whose people, whose beating, pounding heart is so caring and so willing to examine its own wounds. And when I hear those voices saying that America is in its eleventh hour. I say no. All I have to do is look to the sacrifices of my parents, to the sacrifice of the soldier, the farmer, the shopkeeper and be willing, as they

have, to safeguard this democracy, the best form of government in the world.

ALBERT C.M. WONG: IT'S BETTER TO GIVE THAN RECEIVE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Albert C.M. Wong, a giving and selfless servant of the Asian community of Oakland, CA. This year, the Oakland Chinese Community Council will honor Mr. Wong as a keynote speaker at its 29th Annual Fundraising dinner.

The OCCC is a multiservice agency which has provided services to the Oakland Asian community since 1968. Over the years, OCCC has done much to help new immigrants reach their goals, and is best known for its outstanding employment services, training programs, career referral programs, English instruction classes, and voter registration programs. Mr. Wong has had a history of outstanding dedication, generosity, and devotion to these programs and the Asian community in general.

Albert C.M. Wong was born in Hong Kong, and lived in China for 5 years. At the age of 14 he moved to the United States and became a citizen. After working his way through the public school system and Laney College at U.C. Berkeley, he successfully completed a chemistry degree from the University of California, San Francisco.

Mr. Wong's giving acts are testimony to his generosity. He has selflessly donated his time and services to the Oakland Asian Library and the Asian Health Services. Mr. Wong also volunteers as a pharmacy consultant for the Hong Fook Adult Day Health Care Program, sponsored by the OCCC, and was instrumental in coordinating the annual senior luncheon where he helped to serve a nutritional meal to more than 600 seniors. As vice president of the Lion's Club, he helped establish the Lion's Club Annual Health Fair in Chinatown. He is also looking forward to playing an active role in the Mayor's Toy Drive for underprivileged children during the holidays.

Albert Wong is a premier example of the American spirit. Not only is Mr. Wong a great citizen, but in giving back to the people of his community, he helps to fulfill dreams and make the realization of goals possible. We should honor and take note of Mr. Wong's special role in the accomplishments of the Oakland Asian community.

STATEMENT TO HONOR DR. SHIH-I PAI

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of an outstanding individual, Dr. Shih-I Pai, the father of a dear friend of mine from the seventh district of New Jersey, Mrs. Sue Pai Yang.

For 45 years, Dr. Pai was a dedicated professor at the University of Maryland. He was